United Nations A/71/L.87

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
5 September 2017

Original: English

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 126 (h)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Belize and Guyana: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/8 of 16 October 1991 and all its subsequent resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, including its resolution 69/265 of 16 January 2015,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the continued commitment of the States members of the Caribbean Community to the United Nations as a principal forum for multilateral cooperation,

Recalling the cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,[1] and bearing in mind the cooperation activities undertaken pursuant to that agreement,

Emphasizing the continued importance of regular engagements between the two organizations, including contacts between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, and also between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, with a view to reinforcing cooperation and collaboration,

Noting, in this connection, the eighth general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system, held in Georgetown in July 2015 to review the progress made in implementing the coordination mechanism led by the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and to discuss issues identified as priorities by the Caribbean Community

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1978, No. 1197.

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secretariat, in line with the Community strategic plan for the period 2015-2019, including regional integration, macroeconomic stabilization, building competitiveness for growth and employment generation, inclusive growth, human capital development, advancing health and wellness, citizen security and justice, climate adaptation and greenhouse gas mitigation, disaster mitigation and management, information and communications technology, and public education, public information and advocacy,

Noting also the recently concluded ninth general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system, held in New York on 20 and 21 July 2017 to further review progress in the implementation of the coordination mechanism and to examine other areas of cooperation, taking into consideration recent developments of significance to small island developing States, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[5] the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016[6] and the call for action adopted by the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,[7]

Remaining deeply concerned about new and persistent challenges, including the impact of de-risking on financial institutions in the Caribbean, onerous debt, graduation from access to concessionary development funding, the lack of access to energy and sustainable modern energy services, crime and violence, the illicit trade in drugs and arms, the threat of terrorism and extreme violence, the fight against non-communicable diseases, food insecurity, and the adverse effects of climate change, including slow-onset natural disasters, all of which have increased the vulnerabilities and seriously worsened the challenges for the sustainable development efforts of the States members of the Caribbean Community,

Underscoring the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States and the global commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address those vulnerabilities, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the outcome documents of the international conferences on small island developing States and their follow-up, namely, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[8] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[9] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[10]

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[2] Resolution 70/1.

[3] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[4] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[5] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[6] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[7] See resolution 71/312, annex.

[8] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[9] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[10] Resolution 69/15, annex.

Acknowledging the support that States members of the Caribbean Community have received from the United Nations and the continued need for that support in their efforts to advance the implementation of the agreed outcomes of the international conferences on small island developing States and of other internationally agreed outcomes,

Recalling the ongoing recovery of Haiti from the devastating earthquake of 12 January 2010 and subsequent tropical storms and hurricanes that have caused significant loss of life and widespread damage, and stressing the urgent need for renewed and sustained attention to the critical situation in Haiti and to fulfil the pledges made to assist Haiti in its long-term recovery and sustainable development initiatives,

Recalling also its resolutions 71/161 A of 16 December 2016 and 71/161 B of 19 July 2017, in which it reaffirmed the new United Nations approach to cholera in Haiti, including the establishment of the United Nations Haiti cholera response multi-partner trust fund, and noting the decision of the Security Council to establish a follow-on peacekeeping mission in Haiti, the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing collaboration, consultations and information exchanges that have taken place among the United Nations, the Caribbean Community and the States members of the Community aimed at strengthening cooperation and regional capacity in a broad range of areas, such as sustainable development, non-communicable diseases, drugs and crime, statistics, free and fair elections, plant and animal health, and food safety, among others,

Affirming the need to further expand and deepen the cooperation that already exists between the Caribbean Community and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including in the areas of governance, information and communications technology for development, public information and institutional reforms, so as to enhance coherence and effectiveness in the partnership among the United Nations, the Caribbean Community and the States members of the Community,

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[11] in particular paragraphs 40 to 49 on the Caribbean Community, concerning efforts to strengthen and deepen cooperation;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in association with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, as well as the relevant regional organizations, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

3. *Notes* the recent engagements between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, in particular, the agreements signed by the Community secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency and the Caribbean Public Health Agency with the International Atomic Energy Agency;

4. *Also notes* the recently concluded ninth general meeting between the representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system;

[11] A/71/160-S/2016/621.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community to continue their cooperation and to enhance coherence in their engagement, within their respective mandates, so as to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives and to seek answers to global challenges, including climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development challenges, including poverty and inequality, de-risking, non-communicable diseases, transnational organized crime and terrorism;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, bearing in mind the particular vulnerabilities of the States members of the Caribbean Community, to intensify their assistance to those States to enable them to address the diverse challenges that these vulnerabilities pose to achieving sustainable development, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[8] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[9] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[10] the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030[5] and the New Urban Agenda adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito in 2016,[6] and through the implementation of the strategic objectives of the Community;

7. *Highlights* the support that the United Nations Environment Programme has been extending for the implementation of environmental and sustainable development programmes of the Caribbean Community and for the building of capacity to enable effective regional responses to climate change, and further encourages continued collaboration with the Community as well as related regional and national institutions;

8. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue to work closely with the Caribbean Community secretariat on the implementation of the Regional Food and Nutrition Strategy of the Community and in the development of value chains identified by the Community Council of Trade and Economic Development through technical cooperation programmes;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the partnership between UN-Women and the Caribbean Community in the development of the Community Gender Equality Indicators Model to monitor gender equality commitments in the Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Acknowledges* the support of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat extended to the Caribbean Community to strengthen capacity to formulate, monitor and evaluate evidence-based policies on youth using internationally agreed indicators, as well as through the preparation of a regional eGovernment strategy for the Caribbean and a conceptual framework on eGovernment for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean small island developing States, and encourages continued support to the States members of the Community in furthering the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

11. *Emphasizes* the active cooperation existing between the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Caribbean Community, including, in particular, supporting the region's preparation for major conferences, improving the capacity of the Community in gathering and analysing data and in

deepening its analysis of the intraregional and external trade of the Community, as well as in elaborating on the concept of vulnerability in the context of the graduation of some of its member States, and further encourages continued cooperation with the Community and its member States;

12. *Notes* the instrumental role of the United Nations Development Programme in establishing a working group, comprising the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Commonwealth secretariat, to examine the issue of vulnerability;

13. *Expresses appreciation* for the robust partnership arrangements among the Caribbean Community, the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization in addressing non-communicable diseases, and commends the valuable supportive role being played by the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization through the provision of technical and other resources to the Community in the operationalization of the Caribbean Public Health Agency as a mechanism for cooperation and coordination across the region on public health policy;

14. *Recalls and reaffirms* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[12] and the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[13] and in this regard emphasizes that continued and increased efforts are essential for achieving a world free of non-communicable diseases, including through the implementation of multisectoral, cost-effective, population-wide interventions and the provision of adequate, predictable and sustained resources, through domestic, bilateral and multilateral channels, including traditional and voluntary innovative financing mechanisms;

15. *Notes* the tenth anniversary of the Declaration of Port of Spain on non-communicable diseases and the ninth meeting of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, takes note of the Economic and Social Council resolution relating to financing for action on non-communicable diseases, and calls for close cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community with a view to the Global Conference on Non-communicable Diseases, to be held in Montevideo from 18 to 20 October 2017, and the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on non-communicable diseases, to be convened in 2018;

16. *Expresses appreciation* for the robust support and encouragement that the United Nations continues to give to the Pan-Caribbean Partnership against HIV/AIDS as it continues to perform its role as the regional response mechanism for reducing the spread and impact of HIV and AIDS through a system of universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the existing cooperation between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Caribbean Community, and calls for further deepening of that cooperation in such areas as the contribution of information and communications technology to education, the protection of world heritage sites in the Community, the challenge of male academic underachievement and the role of cultural industries in the economies of the States of the region;

[12] Resolution 66/2, annex.
[13] Resolution 68/300.

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the installation at United Nations Headquarters of the permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, an initiative led jointly by States members of the Caribbean Community and the Group of African States at the United Nations;

19. *Expresses appreciation* for the ongoing cooperation received from the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in the implementation of the annual commemoration of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on 25 March and for its support and cooperation rendered in the implementation of the permanent memorial initiative, in keeping with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in providing technical assistance and capacity-building to States members of the Caribbean Community, including in the management of stockpiles of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition and the destruction of obsolete and seized firearms, ammunition and explosives;

21. *Welcomes* the reopening of the office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the region to reinforce the efforts of the States of the region in their struggle against the interrelated scourges of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, violent crime, terrorism and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

22. *Acknowledges* the support of the United Nations in the development of the Caribbean Community Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and encourages the international community, including all relevant parts of the United Nations system, to support the Community, upon request, in its implementation;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".